



OXFORD BACH SOLOISTS

Title: Choral Scholar	Organisation: Oxford Bach Soloists
Location: Various	Term: September 2021 to August 2022 incl.
Agreement type: Scholarship	Reporting to: Artistic Director

About the Oxford Bach Soloists

The Oxford Bach Soloists (OBS) exists to perform the complete vocal works of Johann Sebastian Bach in Oxford over 12 years. Drawing from an abundance of Oxford talent, OBS provides the next generation of young soloists, many of who are choral scholars from the University's college chapels, with the opportunity to collaborate with a professional baroque orchestra. OBS also exists to provide a laboratory for current research, working together with Professors from the University of Oxford's Faculties of Music, Theology, History, and Modern Languages.

Registered charity number: 1172192

For further information on OBS please see: www.oxfordbachsoloists.com

Overview of the role

OBS hosts a series of concerts every year, including the annual *Passion* on Good Friday, *Easter Oratorio* on Holy Saturday, and *Christmas Oratorio* on Christmas Eve. Most concerts are performed on Sunday afternoons in the Chapel of New College Oxford. Additional concerts, recordings, and tours may feature during the year.

Choral Scholars are expected to sing across the academic year from September to August inclusive. They make up the core of the chorus and help to maintain its musical stability. The chorus consists of highly skilled singers from all walks of life.

Choral Scholars are expected to use performance opportunities to further their professional development in consultation with their singing teachers. German language coaching will also be provided as part of their training, and new professional headshot photographs.

The Choral Scholarships for 2021-22 have been generously funded by a number of donors, details of whom can be found on the OBS website.

Responsibilities / duties

- Sing for concerts, recordings, and tours across the academic year.
- Prepare for and attend regular rehearsals, and any additional rehearsals by arrangement with the Artistic Director.
- Maintain a short blog/newsletter keeping funders updated with progress and experiences, including one handwritten letter.
- Attend occasional Friends' social events to interface with donors and supporters.
- Any other tasks as reasonably requested by the Artistic Director/General Manager.
- In addition, Choral Scholars assist in running our social media accounts (e.g. 'Instagram takeovers')

Scholarship Description: OBS Choral Scholar
Date Modified: 22.04.21

Typical Timetable

OBS' core programme consists of an average of one concert per month, usually on the first Sunday of the month. Concerts are preceded by individual language and music coaching, as well as tutti company rehearsals.

Confirmed rehearsal times are released one month in advance. A typical schedule could consist of the following:

Week 1	Language coaching
Week 2	Music coaching
Week 3	Chorus rehearsals
Week 4	<i>(See below)</i>

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday	10:00 – 13:00	rehearsal
	14:00 – 17:00	rehearsal
Sunday (concert day)	11:30 – 14:30	rehearsal (calls at various times)
	15:00 – 16:15	concert

The Candidate

A Choral Scholarship with OBS would be ideally suited to someone wishing to develop a career as a soloist/consort singer, demonstrating a particular affection for the German language and the music of J. S. Bach.

Terms

Choral Scholars receive up to £1,000 per annum.

Application

Candidates are asked to apply online at www.oxfordbachsoloists.com/vacancies with the following:

- a CV,
- a headshot,
- a video recording singing an aria by J S Bach, accompanied by keyboard or orchestra, at a comfortable pitch,
- a cover letter answering the following questions:
 1. Why do you want a Choral Scholarship with the Oxford Bach Soloists?
 2. What are your long-term singing goals?
 3. How will a Choral Scholarship with the Oxford Bach Soloists benefit you?

Applications close at 12 noon on Friday 4th June 2021

Audition procedure

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to audition in person in Oxford on Saturday 3rd July. Candidates are asked to keep this date free. All applicants will be informed by email whether they have been shortlisted by 12 noon on Wednesday 9th June 2021.